Statement-II

Post Circle-wise targets for opening Departmental Sub Post Offices and Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices under Annual Plan, 1996-97 :

S.No.	Name of the Circle	Departmental Sub Post Offices	Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	2
2.	Assam	4	2
3.	Bihar	11	10
4.	Delhi	10	1
5.	Gujarat	12	5
6.	Haryana	10	4
7.	Himachal Pradesh	10	4
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	2
9.	Karnataka	10	2
10.	Kerala	9	1
11.	Madhya Pradesh	9	9
12.	Maharashtra	12	9
13.	North-East	4	2
14.	Orissa	4	4
15.	Punjab	4	2
16.	Rajasthan	10	5
17.	Tamil Nadu	4	2
18.	Uttar Pradesh	16	12
19.	West Bengal	4	2
	Total	150	80

Note : Postal Circle of North-East comprises the States of Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh. Similarly, Goa forms part of Maharashtra Postal Circle and the state of Sikkim forms part of West Bengal Circle.

The following Union Territories are covered by the Postal Circles mentioned against each of them :

Andaman and Nicobar	:	West Bengal Circle
Chandigarh	:	Punjab Circle
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	:	Gujarat
Daman and Diu	:	-do-
Lakshdweep	:	Kerala Circle
Pondicherry	:	Tamil Nadu Circle

Doubling of Ernakulam-Kayamkulam Rail Line

980. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation for doubling the Ernakulam-Kayamkulam railway line via Kottayam and Alappuzha;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A survey for doubling of Ernakulam-Kayamkulam rail line via Alleppy and Kottayam has been taken up. Further, consideration of the project would be possible once the survey report becomes available.

Vacant Posts of Junior Accounts Officer

981. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of posts of Junior Accounts Officer are lying vacant despite availability of the requisite qualified employees in the Department of Posts;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not filling up these posts since 1990, till date;

(c) whether Department of Telecommunications has taken a number of employees from Department of Posts on deputation;

(d) if so, whether the employees of DoT are getting promotion after passing only first part of the Junior Accounts Officer Examination;

(e) if so, the reason for not giving the due right of the employees working in Department of Posts who have already cleared both parts of Junior Accounts Officer Examination; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Against the sanctioned strength of 3490 JAOs, 196 posts are lying vacant. Since the Department of Telecom and Department of Posts are separate, the qualified JAOs in the Department of Posts are not eligible for appointment in the Department of Telecom. The year-wise vacancy position is given below :

1990	1009
1991	1024
1992	704
1993	306
1994	457
1995	497
1996	568
1997	196